

REMARKS

The Examiner indicated that claims 23-28 are allowed.

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 11, 12, 15, 16, 30, 33 and 35 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Applicant's admitted prior art, as disclosed on figures 1-2 and their description in the instant application in view of Bohr (U.S. Patent No. 6,617,681).

The Examiner rejected claims 29, 31, 32 and 34 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Applicant's admitted prior art, as disclosed on figures 1-2 and their description in the instant application in view of Bohr (U.S. Patent No. 6,617,681) and further in view of Ayon (U.S. Patent No. 6,399,516).

Since Applicants have canceled claims 1, 3, and 11, and since Applicants have amended claims 4, 6, 7, 12, 15-16, and 29-35 to depend from allowed claims, Applicants respectfully maintain the rejection of claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 11, 12, 15, 16, 30, 33 and 35, as well of the rejection of claims 29, 31, 32 and 34, is moot.

The amendment herein (i.e., amending selected rejected claims to depend from allowed claims) reflects a telephone discussion between Applicants' representative and the Examiner on May 24, 2005.

CONCLUSION

Based on the preceding arguments, Applicants respectfully believe that all pending claims and the entire application meet the acceptance criteria for allowance and therefore request favorable action. If the Examiner believes that anything further would be helpful to place the application in better condition for allowance, Applicants invites the Examiner to contact Applicants' representative at the telephone number listed below. The Director is hereby authorized to charge and/or credit Deposit Account No. 09-0456.

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